

Dec. Ses. 1822

may hereafter become members of the said corporation herein erected, or may be admitted into the said corporation, agreeably to the constitution, rules and by-laws of the same, and their successors, are hereby declared to be one community, corporation and body politic forever, by the name, style and title of the Maryland Beneficial Society; *Provided nevertheless*, that the said corporation may be dissolved at any time by the consent of its members as is hereinafter provided.

Proviso.

2. *And be it enacted*, That the affairs of the said society, shall be managed and conducted by a president, vice-president, treasurer, secretary and five stewards, to be elected annually on the second Thursday in October, in each and every year, in such manner as the said society shall think proper to appoint.

Officers.

3. *And be it enacted*, That the president of the said society and their successors by their corporate name, shall and may have perpetual succession, and shall, and may be, at all times hereafter, persons, able and capable in law to purchase, take, have and enjoy to them and their successors in fee or less estate or estates, any lands, tenements, rents, annuities, chattels, United States stock, bank stock, registered debt, or other public securities within this state, by gift, purchase or devise of or from any person or persons, body politic or corporate, capable to make the same, and the same at their pleasure, to alien, sell, transfer, or lease in such manner as they may judge most conducive to the charitable use of said society; *Provided nevertheless*, that the said corporation shall not at any one time hold or possess property, real, personal or mixed, exceeding in total value the sum of ten thousand dollars

Powers, &c.

Proviso.

4. *And be it enacted*, That the members of the said corporation and their successors, may meet together, on the second Thursday in October, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and twenty three, at some convenient place in the city of Baltimore, and on the same day annually forever thereafter, and then and there elect the officers of the said society, form such rules and regulations, and enact such by-laws as may be necessary, for assuring and carrying into effect the benevolent purposes of this act; *Provided*, such rules, regulations and by-laws be not repugnant to the constitution and laws of the United States, of the state of Maryland and of the corporation of the city of Baltimore.

Annual elections, &c.

Proviso

5. *And be it enacted*, That all appointments of officers for the said society, heretofore made by the members thereof in their private capacities, shall respectively continue, and be in full force until the time specified by this act, for the first election of officers for the said corporation.

Present officers.

6. *And be it enacted*, That the said corporation and their successors, by the name aforesaid, shall be forever hereafter, able and capable in law to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, answer and be answered unto, defend and be defended in all or any courts of justice, and before all or any judges, officers or persons whatsoever in all and singular actions, matters and demands whatsoever, and that all legal process that may be hereafter instituted by the said corporation shall be in the name of the president and stewards of the Maryland Beneficial Society, and that all process, that may be hereafter instituted against the said society shall be served on the president on behalf of the same.

Legally capable.

7. *And be it enacted*, That it shall and may be lawful for the said corporation and their successors forever hereafter, to have a com-

Privileges.